

Message Text

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12

ACTION CPR-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 A-01 RSC-01 /014 W

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R 010420Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL MADRAS

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

SECSTATE WASHDC 2726

UNCLAS MADRAS 1385

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, IN

SUBJECT: GASOLINE EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION FOR CONGENS

1. THE CONSULATES GENERAL OF THE FRG AND JAPAN IN MADRAS AND THEIR PERSONNEL WITH CONSULAR STATUS HAVE BEEN GRANTED EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF EXCISE TAX ON GASOLINE. THIS EXEMPTION AMOUNTS TO ALMOST TWO THIRDS OF THE COST OF GASOLINE WHICH SELLS IN MADRAS FOR ALMOST TWO DOLLARS PER GALLON. SINCE THIS CONSULATE GENERAL BUYS AN AVERAGE OF 3200 LITERS OF GAS MONTHLY FOR OFFICIAL USE, RS. 6208.00 COULD BE SAVED IN MADRAS ALONE EACH MONTH IF GOI GRANTED U.S. CONSULATES EXEMPTION FROM THE GASOLINE TAX. IN ADDITION, OUR AMERICAN PERSONNEL COULD BE SPARED THE VERY HEAVY EXPENSE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN DRIVING PERSONAL VEHICLES HERE.

2. BOTH THE FRG AND JAPANESE CONSULS GENERAL TELL ME THAT THE EXEMPTION WAS GRANTED AFTER DEMARCHES TO MEA BY THEIR RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES AND WAS APPARENTLY BASED ON RECIPROCITY. IN THE CASE OF THE FRG, EXEMPTION WAS REPORTEDLY GRANTED BY THE GOI ONLY AFTER TAXES WERE IMPOSED OR THREATENED ON INDIAN CONSULATES IN GERMANY.

3. THE BRITISH DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER IN MADRAS TELLS ME THAT THE BRITISH CONSTITUENT POSTS IN INDIA ARE ALSO ABOUT TO BE EXEMPTED FROM THE GASOLINE EXCISE TAX. HE SAYS THIS IS THE OUTCOME OF TWO YEARS DISCUSSION WITH THE GOI, AND

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THAT INDIAN CONSTITUENT POSTS IN THE UK HAVE ALWAYS ENJOYED

EXCISE EXEMPTION.

4. IF INDIAN CONSULATES IN U.S. ARE EXEMPT FROM GASOLINE TAX,
THE TIME APPEARS RIPE TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR SIMILAR EXEMPTION
FOR AMERICAN CONSULATES HERE BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE
FRG, JAPAN, AND THE UK. PERHAPS NEA/EX COULD CLARIFY THE
STATUS OF INDIAN CONSULATES IN U.S.

5. COPY OF LETTER EXEMPTING FRG AND JAPANESE CONSULATES
GENERAL BEING AIRPOUCHED TO EMBASSY.
EAVES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 01 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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From: MADRAS
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